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HOUSE RESOLUTION 282
By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Cheryl Matney Sanders for her meritorious service to the citizens of the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those law enforcement professionals who place their own safety at risk in order to serve their fellow citizens, and who distinguish themselves as credits to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl Matney Sanders is most assuredly one such remarkable public servant, who has earned the distinction of being the first woman Lieutenant in the Tennessee Highway Patrol; and

WHEREAS, she is the daughter of Barbara Matney and the late Johnny Matney and a graduate of Dyllis Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the Valedictorian of Oliver Springs High School Class of 1978 and recipient of the Journalism Award, Lieutenant Sanders achieved academic success in her high school career while participating in numerous extracurricular activities, including serving as the Captain of the Rifle Corps, the Editor of the School Newspaper, and as Senior Class Treasurer; and

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WHEREAS, Cheryl Matney Sanders received an Academic Award to attend Tennessee Technology University where she studied Fashion Merchandising; and

WHEREAS, possessing a life-long interest in art, she is a talented and accomplished artist; several of her paintings have been displayed throughout Roane County; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Sanders worked as a night shift worker at Roane Hosiery Mill while attending Roane State Community College; and

WHEREAS, through her extraordinary effort and commitment to learning, Cheryl Matney Sanders graduated from Roane State Community College with an Associate Degree in Police Science; and

WHEREAS, she accepted a position with the Tennessee Highway Patrol in 1983; the only woman in a class of thirty-six men, she graduated 2nd in her class, earning the distinction of Salutatorian; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Sanders has served with integrity, bravery, and skill as a Trooper, Undercover Officer, and as Litter Control Officer; while serving as Litter Control Officer in 1996, she was promoted to the position of Sergeant, becoming the first woman in the history of the Knoxville District of Tennessee Highway Patrol to hold this position; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Cheryl Matney Sanders was stationed in Roane and Morgan counties, where she has meritoriously performed her duties for the last four years; and

WHEREAS, committed to expanding her knowledge and skill in public safety and police services, she completed the prestigious Center for Public Safety Program at Northwestern University for Police Staff and Command in 2001; and

WHEREAS, the first woman promoted to Lieutenant in the Tennessee Highway Patrol, Lieutenant Sanders strives daily to protect the citizenry of this State, earning the respect of her peers and the people she serves for her integrity, ability, and diligence; and

WHEREAS, Captain Lester Jackson of the Knoxville District Tennessee Highway Patrol has stated that Cheryl Matney Sanders has performed every task assigned to her with exceptional skill; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of her profession, she is the Secretary of the Fraternal Order of Police for Lodge 36, where she served as President in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Sanders epitomizes the commitment to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl Matney Sanders is a devoted and loving wife to her husband, Steve Sanders, and their daughter, Courtney; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Roane County, she resides in the Dyllis community with her family and is a faithful member of the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Sanders is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State"; and

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of this General Assembly to recognize this dedicated public servant and conscientious citizen for her exemplary service and stalwart commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend Cheryl Matney Sanders for her extraordinary service as a member of the Tennessee Highway Patrol, recognize her significant milestone as the first woman Lieutenant in the Tennessee Highway Patrol, salute her courage and bravery in times of need and crisis, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.